UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/743,112	01/16/2001	Hiroshi Kamakura	108100	5773

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EXAMINER
BAUGH, APRIL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
   application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20040719</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant amended claims 1-3, and 11-14 and added new claims 17-18, therefore claims 1-18 are

now pending.

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments filed July 19, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive. Applicant argues that Ichimura does not teach meeting data that are stored in units

based on corresponding units of supplied-data, each unit of meeting data being identified by a

specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data. However it

is the examiner's position that Ichimura teaches the above feature (column 10, line 65-column

11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49 and Interview Summary Paper #15-8/23/04).

      Ichimura teaches, "When the user-input data detection detects an input of pen data, the

pen data is displayed on screen...display section displays handwriting PA and the string of

speaker name SA. Second memory section receives a pen data as user-input data from user-input

data detection section, data of a speaker name from state detector and audio image signals at the

statement starting point ...these pieces of data are associated with each other and stored...".

Therefore the supplier of the data is associated with the supplied data and thus stored.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by US Patent No.

5,894,306 to Ichimura.

Regarding claim 1, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible

using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses

interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is reproduced, at least two of

said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data reproducing apparatus

respectively (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus

comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a

data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced, the meeting data being stored in

units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being

identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-

data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49); a communication

interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; and a storage

unit in which a generated image is stored and which is accessible by said another processing

apparatus via said communication interface unit (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26

and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), and each of said at least one meeting data reproducing

apparatus and said another meeting data reproducing apparatus including said conversion unit

and said communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit

and reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38,

lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 2, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible

using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses

interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated, at least two of

said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data generating apparatus

respectively (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one meeting data generating apparatus

comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-data into a

data format which allows said meeting data to be generated the meeting data being stored in units

based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being

identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-

data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49);; a communication

interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; and a storage

unit that stores generated meeting data, which is accessible by said another processing apparatus

via said communication interface unit (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column

8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), and each of said at least one meeting data generating apparatus and said

another meeting data generating apparatus including said conversion unit and said

communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit and

reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines

7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 3, Ichimura teaches a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible

using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses

interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated and reproduced

(column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), at least one of said plurality of processing apparatuses

comprising meeting data generating apparatus, at least one of said plurality of processing

apparatuses comprising meeting data reproducing apparatus, said meeting data reproducing

apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts said supplied-

data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced (column 6, line 40

through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45) the meeting data being stored in

units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being

identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-

data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49); a communication

interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus; said meeting

data generating apparatus comprising: a conversion unit including a virtual machine that converts

said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be generated; a

communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus,

at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing

apparatus comprising a storage unit in which a generated image is stored and which is accessible

by said another processing apparatus via said communication interface unit, and said meeting

data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus accessing said storage

unit and generating and reproducing meeting data (column 4, lines 7-56 and column 38, lines 7-

11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 11, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a

computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a

plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: information for implementing a communication interface unit which allows said storage unit to be shared by other processing apparatuses (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45).

Regarding claim 12, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: information for generating supplied-data in said common format; and information for transmitting said generated supplied-data to at least one of said processing apparatuses having storage unit accessible by the respective processing apparatuses (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45).

Regarding claim 13, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive,

and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a

virtual machine (column 6, line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-

45), said information comprising: reading information for accessing at least one of said

processing apparatuses having storage unit which stores said meeting data and which is

accessible by the respective processing apparatuses to read said meeting data stored in said

storage unit, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-

data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that

supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10, line 65-column 11, line 6 and

column 11, lines 41-49); and reproducing information for reproducing read image data, said

reading information comprising: information for generating supplied-data indicating a reading

request and for converting said supplied-data into said common format; and information for

transmitting said converted supplied-data to a processing apparatus having said storage unit to

receive supplied-data including meeting data from said processing apparatus, said reproducing

information comprising: information for implementing said virtual machine; and information for

converting supplied-data using said virtual machine in accordance with the received supplied-

data so as to reproduce the meeting data (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28 and column 4, lines 7-

56 and column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 14, Ichimura teaches an information storage medium readable by a

computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while a

plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive,

and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a

virtual machine (column 1, lines 8-13 and 25-28), the meeting data being stored in units based on

corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a

specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (column 10,

line 65-column 11, line 6 and column 11, lines 41-49), said information comprising: requesting

information for requesting a particular service to another processing apparatus; providing

information for providing a particular service to another processing apparatus, said requesting

information comprising: information for generating supplied-data indicating a request and for

said particular service and converting said supplied-data into said common format; and

information for transmitting said converted supplied-data to a processing apparatus (column 6,

line 40 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 39-45), said providing

information comprising: information for implementing said virtual machine; information for

receiving supplied-data indicating a request for a service from another processing apparatus and

converting supplied-data using said virtual machine; information for determining whether it is

possible to provide said service in accordance with said converted supplied-data; and information

for, if it is possible to provide said service, providing said service (column 4, lines 7-56 and

column 38, lines 7-11 and 22-29).

Regarding claim 4, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said

supplied-data comprising at least one of image data for displaying said meeting data and control

data for controlling the displaying of said meeting data, said meeting data reproducing apparatus

comprising: a display unit that displays said meeting data in accordance with said image data;

and a control unit that controls the displaying of said meeting data in accordance with said

control data (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column

10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 5, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said processing apparatus comprising a server device, said supplied-data comprising a component object serving as a part of a program for generating said meeting data, and said meeting data generating apparatus generating said program for generating meeting data in accordance with received component object and generating said meeting data using said program (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 6, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3, said meeting data generating apparatus comprising data control unit that stores the supplied-data, converted by said conversion unit, in said storage unit in which particular presentation data is stored while said supplied-data is managed in units of supplied-data received from each of said processing apparatuses (column 8, lines 4-20 and 40-45), and reads meeting data including at least a part of said supplied-data and said presentation data from said storage unit in accordance with a reproduction command from each of said processing apparatuses, and said communication interface unit comprising a transmitting unit that transmits the read meeting data to said meeting data reproducing apparatus (column 4, lines 7-25 and column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 10, line 62 through column 11, lines 6).

Regarding claim 7, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 6, said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said meeting data stored in said storage unit in units of data associated with said processing apparatus which supplies said supplied-data, in accordance with said reproduction command (column 6, line 60 through column 7, line 26 and column 8, lines 4-20 and 40-45 and column 38, lines 6-10 and 22-30).

Regarding claim 8, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 7, said

meeting data generating apparatus comprising: an image-recording unit that records images of a

meeting scene, and an image data unit that stores image data obtained as a result of the recording

of images of the meeting scene in said storage unit as a part of said meeting data, in

predetermined units of data, and said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said

meeting data stored in said storage unit, in predetermined units of data in accordance with said

reproduction command (column 1, lines 8-11 and 25-28 and column 6, line 40 through column 7,

line 26).

Regarding claim 9, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 8, at least

one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus

comprising a projector (column 6, lines 40-49).

Regarding claim 10 and 16, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 3

and 14, said transmission line comprising an IEEE-1394 bus (column 6, lines 50-55).

Regarding claim 15, Ichimura teaches the information storage medium according to claim

14, said supplied-data comprising at least one of meeting data, an object for generating meeting

data, an object for controlling the generation of meeting data, an object for reproducing meeting

data, and an object for controlling the reproduction of meeting data (column 4, lines 6-56).

Regarding claim 17, Ichimura teaches the meeting system of claim 1, at least two

processing apparatuses being associated with at least two respective meeting participants, and

each of the at least two processing apparatuses identifying a corresponding one of the at least two

respective meeting participants (column 10, lines 37-43).

Regarding claim 18, Ichimura teaches the meeting system according to claim 1, the generated image being generated based on the meeting data, and each of the at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus and the another meeting data reproducing apparatus simultaneously displaying different parts of the generated image on different sub-area of a display area (column 11, lines 3-6).

Conclusion

3.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 571-272-3877. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ALB

RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER